

REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register:	23 August 1999
Name of applicant/court:	Secretary for Internal Affairs
Applicant to the Labelling Body:	Not Applicable
Title of Publication:	Shothang.jpg
Other Known Titles:	Not Stated
Director:	Not Applicable
Producer:	Not Applicable
Publisher:	Not Applicable
Author:	Not Applicable
Format:	Computer Printout (Image)
Country of Origin:	Not Stated
Language:	English

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Components of film originally examined: Not Applicable.

Feature:	Running time:
Trailers:	Running time:
	Total Running time:

Excision/Alteration: Not Applicable.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

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Classification Decision:

Objectionable.

Display Conditions:

Not Applicable.

Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable.

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Direction to issue a label has been given on: Not Applicable.

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The computer printout (image) entitled *Shothang.jpg* is classified as:
Objectionable.

The computer printout promotes and supports the use of violence and coercion to compel people to participate in, and submit to, sexual conduct as outlined under s3(2)(b) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 (FVPC Act).

The publication is a computer printout of an illustration. The image has been downloaded from the Internet onto a computer and printed out onto an A4 size sheet of white paper. The computer printout measures 140mm wide and 195mm high and is in portrait orientation.

The image depicts a woman's face from the neck up. She has been hung by a rope around her neck. The high colour of her face, and the fact that her eyes are rolled back into her head, indicate that she has died from strangulation. To the right of her face, a hand holds the shaft of a penis. Ejaculate is smeared on the woman's cheek, mouth and on the end of the penis.

The computer printout presents sexual violence and coercion in a manner intended to sexually arouse the viewer. It sexualises the violence inflicted upon the woman in a manner which suggests that to compel a person to submit to sexual activity is sexually arousing. The publication therefore promotes and supports the use of violence and coercion to compel people to participate in, and submit to, sexual conduct as outlined under s3(2)(b) of the FVPC Act, and is deemed to be objectionable.

The publication has been found to promote and support an activity listed in s3(2) of the FVPC Act. This provision overrides s14 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (NZBR Act) because it is a deeming provision which cannot be given a meaning that is consistent with the rights and freedoms set out in that section of the NZBR Act.

OFLC Ref: 9900266